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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Colombia

SUBJECT - FCC Departmental Activities

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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1. The Communist Party is continuing its political campaign in the interior of Colombia. Although the Party has received very little popular support, Gilberto Vieira White,\* Secretary General of the PCC, accompanied by Alvaro Pio Valencia, visited Pereira, Manizales, and Armenia in the Department of Caldas, and Medellin, capital of the Department of Antioquia.
2. Prior to their arrival in Medellin, strenuous efforts were made by the local Communist group to disseminate propaganda calling for the support and attendance at the demonstration to be held in that city at the same time as that of the Conservative Party. Those who attended appeared to be mere passive onlookers and displayed very little enthusiasm. The meeting was disrupted by a group of Conservatives, and the Communist organizers were forced to flee to safety.
3. All Communists from Bolivar and Magdalena were ordered to attend a Communist meeting scheduled to be held in Barranquilla in early April. Bernardo Medina, one of the PCC leaders in Barranquilla, distributed a pamphlet entitled "El Proletario - Organo del Comité Departamental del Partido Comunista de Colombia" in which he attacked the recent presence of United States naval vessels in the Port of Cartagena. He also called upon the people of Barranquilla to attend a huge public demonstration to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Gaitan in spite of the government decree forbidding any public displays to be held on 9 April.
4. As a result of printing the publication in defiance of the decree, Medina was arrested and sentenced to thirty days imprisonment, and Julio Lopez Cabrales, director of the printing shop, El Industrial, was fined one hundred pesos for his responsibility in having "El Proletario" published.
5. Augusto Duran Ospino, Secretary General of the Partido Comunista Obrero (PCO), had issued instructions to his followers in Barranquilla to participate in the PCC demonstration and to sabotage the meeting by whatever means available.
6. The Communist Party is reported to be preparing leaflets to be distributed throughout Colombia calling for all Communists to participate in a national demonstration to be held in the Plaza Bolivar in Bogota on 10 May 1949.

25X1A6a [REDACTED] Comment. Prior to the demonstration on 26 March 1949, Gilberto Vieira

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White, accompanied by Joaquin Moreno Diaz, applied at the American Consulate in Medellin for a visa to the United States and was refused.

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